

## October 7, 2015 Regular Town Board Meeting

The regular meeting of the Town Board was called to order by Chairman Gaulke at 1:00 p.m. Supervisors Chris Mayer, Ginger Schwanebeck, Treasurer Irene Messinger and Clerk Nancy Edwards were present.

Others present: Charlie Iverson, Jim Sommerfeldt, Eric Johnson FYI News, John Dean, Paul Osterman Northwood Connect, Roberta Gast, Norm Wetzel, Ralph Kerler, Graham McFarland, Mel Hoff, Kay Hoff.

This meeting was properly posted and the media notified as required by law.

Motion by Mr. Mayer and seconded by Mrs. Schwanebeck to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Mayer and seconded by Mrs. Schwanebeck to approve voucher numbers 48020-48071 from the General Fund account, voucher numbers 1647-1649 from the Ambulance Fund.

The minutes of the September 16, 2015 Regular Town Board meeting and the minutes of the September 23, 2015 Special Town Board meeting were presented for approval. Motion by Mr. Mayer seconded by Mrs. Schwanebeck to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer Messinger provided her report on the financial status as follows: Reconciled balance of the General fund as of 09/30/2015 as \$1,007,833.19. Reconciled balance of the Ambulance Fund as of 09/30/2015 as \$413,096.03. Motion by Mr. Mayer seconded by Mrs. Schwanebeck to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

**Broadband Internet Services-Northwoods Connect:** Paul Osterman from Northwoods Connect presented a short presentation today on wireless internet service. Northwoods Connect is currently providing service to Rhinelander, parts of Minocqua, Hazelhurst, Squirrel Lake, Town of Lynn and are expanding to other areas. They have faster speeds and are able to penetrate the trees better than other services. Speeds range from 3-8Mbps and future upgrades will allow +25Mbps. Prices range from \$40-\$80/month. No Contracts, bundles, termination fees or data caps. They have received many calls from LDF residents asking when they can come to this area. Mr. Gaulke mentioned to Paul that we do have a 300 ft. tower that we own along with Vilas County and if that would be something they could use. Paul stated certainly. They like to stay at least 250 feet. Mrs. Schwanebeck asked what is required of the board or community to get this going. Paul replied that the equipment is very expensive, about \$40,000 per tower site. There is funding available with state grants and you must have a public/private relationship which the Town of Hazelhurst currently has. The distance of service area can go as far as 5 miles, but they can mostly guarantee 2 to 3 miles. Mr. Mayer stated it is very important to move forward and would like Paul to inform the board of what financial obligations we might have to budget for in the future. The board thanked Paul for coming and to keep us informed of any updates.

**Salt/Sand Shed Estimates:** This item is being tabled and will be put on a future agenda. Pete has not received any estimates to date and will get back in contact with the companies for estimates.

**Bartenders License Application for approval:** Bartender application was received from Robert J. Clause. Motion by Mrs. Schwanebeck seconded by Mr. Mayer to approve the application as presented. Motion Carried.

**Ambulance Stand-by request:** A request was received from the Lake of the Torches Casino for ambulance standby coverage for the upcoming King of the Cage event to be held October 17, 2015. Proper application, fee and certificate of insurance have been received. Motion by Mr. Mayer seconded by Mrs. Schwanebeck to approve the request. Motion Carried.

**Crawling Stone Lakes Association/state shoreland zoning law:** Mr. Kerler from the Crawling Stone Lakes Association came to the meeting today to discuss shoreland zoning and local control. They are firmly against the changes in Act 55. The issue they have with it was how it was slipped into the budget with no public discussion. We need to protect our watersheds and lakefronts. They feel the Town of LDF and Vilas County should be making the decisions on how are lakes are managed. The new rules are not in the property owner's best interest. They recommend the board pass a resolution against Act 55. Mr. Gaulke stated this is a new act and there is a lot of information which requires reading between the lines. Mrs. Schwanebeck stated we can still have our ordinance. Our ordinance is not a shoreland zoning ordinance. Our ordinance is a general zoning ordinance and the rules are different. Vilas County is the enforcer thru the state for shoreland. Mr. Gaulke is planning on reading up more on the bill. The board stated what residents need to do is contact their county supervisors and state representatives Janet Brewley and Beth Meyers.

The visitors at today's meeting have left as the board is going into closed session.

Motion by Mr. Mayer seconded by Mrs. Schwanebeck to go into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. section 19.85 (1) (c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. (f) considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific persons except where par.(b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations, for the purpose of evaluating road crew status.

Roll call vote: Mrs. Schwanebeck, aye: Mr. Mayer, aye: Mr. Gaulke, aye: Motion carried. We are now in closed session.

Motion by Mrs. Schwanebeck seconded by Mr. Mayer to reconvene into open session. Roll call vote: Mrs. Schwanebeck, aye: Mr. Mayer, aye: Mr. Gaulke, aye: Motion carried. We are now in open session:

No action taken during closed session:

Motion by Mr. Mayer seconded by Mrs. Schwanebeck to adjourn at 2:10. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Edwards  
Town Clerk

